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Notes ID: 712C54AAD7794EE285257881004E8C7D

From: Dave Dickerson/R1/USEPA/US

To: Dave Deegan/R1/USEPA/US@EPA

Copy To: ElaineT Stanley/R1/USEPA/US@EPA; Jeanethe Falvey/R1/USEPA/US@EPA

Delivered Date: 06/18/2010 11:33 AM EDT

Subject: Re: Fw: New Bedford Harbour dredging project

Its important to remember that the estimates of the cost and time to complete the cleanup are completely dependent on the annual funding amounts. But yes to answer her question we do have new estimates that she quotes somewhat incorrectly.

> Dave Deegan---06/18/2010 11:22:23 AM---Hopefully the last follow up : re. timing of completion. Also, Can we send her any high-res. versio

From: Dave Deegan/R1/USEPA/US
To: ElaineT Stanley/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, Dave Dickerson/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, Jeanethe Falvey/R1/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 06/18/2010 11:22 AM
Subject: Fw: New Bedford Harbour dredging project

Hopefully the last follow up : re. timing of completion.

Also, Can we send her any high-res. versions of the photos on the Web? I'll find out which specific one(s) she'd like.

Dave

David Deegan
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----- Forwarded by Dave Deegan/R1/USEPA/US on 06/18/2010 11:18 AM -----

From: Girija Shettar <Girija.Shettar@lrfairplay.com>
To: Dave Deegan/R1/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Girija Shettar <Girija.Shettar@lrfairplay.com>
Date: 06/18/2010 04:32 AM
Subject: RE: New Bedford Harbour dredging project

Thanks, I will take a look at these.

By the way, do you have any news from the work that I could use as a lead for a daily news story?

Also, can I ask - is the 41 years and $1.1BN to finish the work a new estimate? Previous estimates I was aware of were in the 38 year mark...

Kind regards,
Girija

-----Original Message-----
From: Deegan.Dave@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Deegan.Dave@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: 17 June 2010 16:34
To: Girija Shettar
Subject: RE: New Bedford Harbour dredging project

Of course! sorry I keep forgetting...

We have may photos posted to
http://epa.gov/region1/nbh/photogallery.html ... Hope that some there
are helpful for you.
Dave

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|Girija Shettar < Girija.Shettar@lrfairplay.com > |
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|RE: New Bedford Harbour dredging project |
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Hi,

Thanks very much indeed. Do you have any pictures?!

Girija

-----Original Message-----
From: Deegan.Dave@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Deegan.Dave@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: 17 June 2010 15:52
To: Girija Shettar
Cc: stanley.elainet@epamail.epa.gov
Subject: RE: New Bedford Harbour dredging project

Hello Girija,

Here are the follow up questions & answers:

1. Would like to confirm: did the dredging start on time (ie on June 14)?
Yes.

2. What is the meaning of "coring"?
Samples are taken using a coring device that penetrates into the sediment yielding a core of sediment which represents the depth of materials in-situ.

3. When the sand is taken to the pumping stations, it is treated with: "ferric sulfate is added to react with hydrogen sulphide". Could you briefly explain what this process achieves? Is it purification of the sediment?
The sediment/sand slurry is pumped from the hydraulic dredge to a booster pump station where ferric sulfate is added to react with the hydrogen sulfide. The pump station is located with enough distance from the desanding facility where the sand is removed to allow for a complete reaction time. Without treatment, the level of hydrogen sulfide at the desanding facility would require the workers in the building to wear Level B personal protection.

4. What is a filter cake? [Is it the purified sediment without water?]
Filter cake is the compressed sediment which contains the majority of PCBs. The filter cake is generated from a filter press which removes as much free water as possible.

5. When you say that "dissolved oxygen" is monitored during dredging, do you mean that the amount of oxygen dissolved during the dredging process is monitored?
We monitor the amount of dissolved oxygen that exists in the river water near and up- and downstream of the dredging operation. Dissolved oxygen is an indicator of ecological health in the water body.

6. "Tidal areas are only dredged during high tide" - why is this? Would it not be easier (no water, no ships) to dredge at a low tide?
The hydraulic dredge needs to operate in a sub-tidal environment, meaning that the dredge requires full submergence in water to successfully dredge bottom sediment.

7. Funding, you say, is coming from the "general revenue treasury" - do you mean the government treasury in general and not a dedicated fund such as the American Recovering and Reinvestment fund?
That's correct. In 2009 this project did receive supplemental funding under the Recovery Act (see below).

8. What is the meaning of "stimulus funding" in the sentence: "Stimulus funding allowed for approximately 50,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment to be removed in 2009." Does it mean an extra lot of funding specifically for that project..?
Stimulus funding is the funding that comes from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. This funding is separate and in addition to our typical $15 million per year funding from the general treasury. The New Bedford Harbor Superfund site received additional funding last year under President Obama's economic stimulus program.

Feel free to let me know if you have other questions.
Dave

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|Dave Deegan/R1/USEPA/US@EPA |
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|RE: New Bedford Harbour dredging project |
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Hi Dave,

Many thanks for your responses. That is great. I just have a couple of final confirmations/queries based on your response:

1. Would like to confirm: did the dredging start on time (ie on June 14)?
2. What is the meaning of "coring"?
3. When the sand is taken to the pumping stations, it is treated with: "ferric sulfate is added to react with hydrogen sulphide". Could you briefly explain what this process achieves? Is it purification of the sediment?
4. What is a filter cake? [Is it the purified sediment without water?]
5. When you say that "dissolved oxygen" is monitored during dredging, do you mean that the amount of oxygen dissolved during the dredging process is monitored?
6. "Tidal areas are only dredged during high tide" - why is this? Would it not be easier (no water, no ships) to dredge at a low tide?
7. Funding, you say, is coming from the "general revenue treasury" - do you mean the government treasury in general and not a dedicated fund such as the American Recovering and Reinvestment fund?
8. What is the meaning of "stimulus funding" in the sentence: "Stimulus funding allowed for approximately 50,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment to be removed in 2009." Does it mean an extra lot of funding specifically for that project..?

ALSO, please could you send us some high-resolution pictures, ideally of the dredging work (current or past), and of the Harbour, on ground

and/or aerial. If there is a project manager, a picture of him or her would be welcome, too.

Thank you, and kind regards,
Girija
(DPC)

-----Original Message-----
From: Deegan.Dave@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Deegan.Dave@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: 16 June 2010 20:40
To: Girija Shettar
Subject: Re: New Bedford Harbour dredging project

Hello Girija,

Thanks for your patience. Below are answers to your questions:

1. When will the current dredging project begin?
Response: June 14, 2010

2. Is it due to end at the end of October - any approximate date available?
Response: The end of the 2010 dredge season is scheduled for October 1, 2010

3. Has a contractor been chosen for this project?
Response: Yes. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, EPA's Construction Manager for the project, has a prime contract with Jacobs Engineering Group and the dredging subcontractor is Sevenson Environmental.

4. What equipment will be used?
Response: We will be using three "Mudcat" MC 2000 sediment dredges to hydraulically dredge contaminated sediment in different areas at different times, mostly depending on tide. Hydraulic dredging is not conducted in tidal areas at low tide.

5. What techniques are going to be used?
Response: Debris removal by means of mechanical excavation occurs ahead of dredging to remove scrap, trash, boulders and clumps of vegetation that could impair dredging production or damage the hydraulic dredging equipment. The dredge areas are set up prior to dredging with a perimeter of sheet piles. Hydraulic dredging is conducted within these sheets using a cable system where the dredge pulls itself back and forth within the dredge area. Dredge cuts are based on pre-dredging coring analytical results and progress coring. The dredge sediment slurry is transported from the dredge through floating pipelines and through two

booster pump stations located on-shore. At one of the pump stations, ferric sulfate is added to react with hydrogen sulfide. The sediment is then routed to a desanding facility where sand and shells are removed. The remaining sediment slurry is pumped to a dewatering facility where water is removed, treated and discharge back into the river. The resultant sediment filter cake is loaded into rail cars for shipment off-site to a licensed TSCA disposal facility.

6. What are the environmental considerations? And are there specific times when dredging can and cannot be carried out?
Response: Water quality, including chemistry, turbidity, dissolved oxygen and toxicity is monitored during dredging operations. Air monitoring for PCBs is also conducted at various locations at the dredge and along the river. Dredging is also conducted so as to avoid impact on the annual fish migration in the Upper New Bedford Harbor where we are currently dredging. Tidal areas are only dredged during high tide.

7. What are the key challenges and how will these be overcome?
Response: One of the key challenges for this project is the constraint posed by the tidal cycle. Three dredges have been launched to work in different areas (tidal and subtidal) to maximize the dredging time.

8. How much will the project cost?
Response: Based on the typical funding rate of $15 million per year, it is estimated to take approximately an additional 41 years and $1.1 billion.

9. Where are the funds coming from?
Response: Current funding for the project is coming from the general revenue treasury. In 2009, stimulus funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in the amount of $30 million was added to the base funding and allowed for longer 2009 and 2010 dredging seasons (additional six months of dredging) and removal of more of the most highly PCB-contaminated sediment.

10. In this phase, is it accurate that 700,000 cubic yards of sediment is scheduled to be moved?
Response: There are approximately 700,000 cubic yards of sediment yet to be removed from the Upper and Lower New Bedford Harbor.

11. Is it accurate that 193,000cys has been dredged over the previous 6 seasons?
Response: Since 2000, approximately 200,000 cubic yards of the most highly contaminated sediments and shoreline soils, backyards and salt marshes have been addressed. Full-scale dredging, dewatering and disposal operations began in 2004 where, at the current funding level of

$15 million, approximately 20,000-25,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment is dredged per year. Stimulus funding allowed for approximately 50,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment to be removed in 2009.

12. How much of the 700,000cy's is expected to be contaminated?
Response: All of the sediment to be excavated is contaminated with risk-based unacceptable levels of PCBs.

13. Where is the sediment taken to? And is it to be treated?
Response: The sediment filter cake is shipped to a TSCA-licensed landfill in Michigan for disposal.

Best Regards,
Dave

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|New Bedford Harbour dredging project |
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Dear Mr Deegan,

I am a reporter for the UK-based magazine Dredging and Port Construction . I would like to obtain a few extra details about the above mentioned project. (The article from your website is at the foot of this email for your reference.)

Also, could you send me some high-resolution jpegs of dredging work at the Harbour?

Questions:
1. When will the current dredging project begin?
2. Is it due to end at the end of October - any approximate date available?
3. Has a contractor been chosen for this project?
4. What equipment will be used?
5. What techniques are going to be used?
6. What are the environmental considerations? And are there specific times when dredging can and cannot be carried out?
7. What are the key challenges and how will these be overcome?
8. How much will the project cost?
9. Where are the funds coming from?
10. In this phase, is it accurate that 700,000 cubic yards of sediment is scheduled to be moved?
11. Is it accurate that 193,000cys has been dredged over the previous 6 seasons?
12. How much of the 700,000cy's is expected to be contaminated?
13. Where is the sediment taken to? And is it to be treated?

Many thanks, and I look forward to hearing from you,
Ms Girija Shettar
Staff Reporter, Dredging and Port Construction

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THE ARTICLE
Superfund Dredging Resumes for Seventh Season in New Bedford Harbor

Release date: 06/09/2010

Contact Information: Jeanethe Falvey, 617-918-1020

(Boston, Mass. – June 9, 2010) Through the first two weeks of June, work crews will be mobilizing equipment and personnel for the startup of EPA's seventh season of Superfund dredging in New Bedford Harbor. Dredging is officially set to begin on June 14, 2010. This is the same cleanup process that has been used since the start of full scale dredging in 2004. In total, approximately 193,000 cubic yards of PCB-contaminated sediment have been removed as required by the 1998 cleanup plan; including cleanups prior to 2004 and the 2005 underwater cap project. Approximately 700,000 cubic yards of sediment remain to be addressed. EPA has worked within a "worst first" approach and much of the remaining sediment is lower in PCB levels than that removed to date.

Last year's dredging was bolstered with additional cleanup funding from the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This additional funding allowed for five full months of dredging, up from the two months that had been typical with annual appropriated funding since Superfund dredging began in 2004. A portion of that funding, leftover from last year, will be supporting this season as well. The extended duration for the 2009 dredge season doubled the amount of contaminated material that was removed from the harbor, and EPA anticipates this year's results to be similar aiming to cleanup another 50,000 cubic yards by the end of October.

Cleanup crews will be operating 6 days a week, 12 hours a day, overseeing dredging and processing equipment, on the river and inside the two shoreline processing facilities at the end of Sawyer Street and Hervey Tichon Avenue in New Bedford. Similar to last year, two dredging

locations will be staged in the upper harbor to take advantage of the tides to ensure as steady a process as possible.

Similar to previous years, water and air quality monitoring will be performed at numerous locations during the dredging season to ensure the protection of human health and the environment. .

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